

TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Total Number of Pages in This Submission

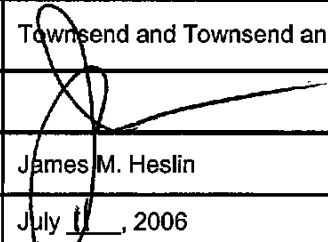
| | |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| Application Number | 10/787,404 |
| Filing Date | February 24, 2004 |
| First Named Inventor | FRANTZEN, JOHN J. |
| Art Unit | 3734 |
| Examiner Name | TRUONG, KEVIN THAO |
| Attorney Docket Number | 025925-000110US |

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 | <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Table on CD | <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): PTO/SB/08A & PTO/SB/08B 2 Reference Copies |
|--|--|--|


| | |
|---------|--|
| Remarks | The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees to Deposit Account 20-1430. |
|---------|--|

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

| | | | |
|--------------|---|----------|--------|
| Firm Name | Townsend and Townsend and Crew LLP | | |
| Signature |  | | |
| Printed name | James M. Heslin | | |
| Date | July 11, 2006 | Reg. No. | 29,541 |

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being filed via EFS-Web with the United States Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below.

| | | | |
|-----------------------|---|------|---------------|
| Signature |  | | |
| Typed or printed name | Tiffany Wu | Date | July 12, 2006 |

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being filed via
EFS-Web with the United States Patent and Trademark Office
on 7/12/06

PATENT
Attorney Docket No.: 025925-000110US

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: Tiffany Wu

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

JOHN J. FRANTZEN

Application No.: 10/787,404

Filed: February 24, 2004

For: VASCULAR STENT-GRAFT
APPARATUS

Confirmation No.: 4522

Examiner: TRUONG, KEVIN THAO

Art Unit: 3734

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION
DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER
37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

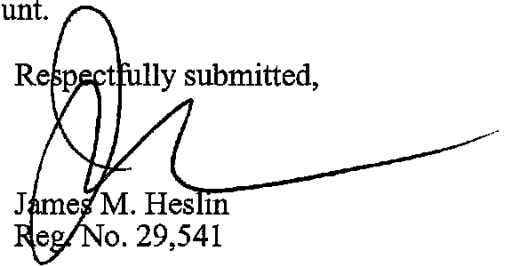
Sir:

The references cited on attached form PTO/SB/08A and PTO/SB/08B are being called to the attention of the Examiner. Copies of the references [in compliance with the requirements of 37 CFR §1.98(a)(2)] are enclosed. It is respectfully requested that the cited references be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and the references be made of record therein and appear among the "references cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

As provided for by 37 CFR §1.97(g) and (h), no inference should be made that the information and references cited are prior art merely because they are in this statement and no representation is being made that a search has been conducted or that this statement encompasses all the possible relevant information.

Applicant believes that no fee is required for submission of this statement. However, if a fee is required, the Commissioner is authorized to deduct such fee from the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 20-1430. Please deduct any additional fees from, or credit any overpayment to, the above-noted Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



James M. Heslin
Reg. No. 29,541

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, Eighth Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834
Tel: 650-326-2400
Fax: 650-326-2422
JMH:tfw
60818151 v1

| | | | | | |
|--|---|----|--------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary) | | | Complete if Known | | |
| | | | Application Number | 10/787,404 | |
| | | | Filing Date | February 24, 2004 | |
| | | | First Named Inventor | FRANTZEN, JOHN J. | |
| | | | Art Unit | 3734 | |
| | | | Examiner Name | TRUONG, KEVIN THAO | |
| Sheet | 1 | of | 3 | Attorney Docket Number | 025925-000110US |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|---|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Document Number Number Kind Code ² (if known) | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
| | 1 | 4,641,653 | 02-10-1987 | Rockey | |
| | 2 | 4,728,328 | 03-01-1988 | Hughes et al. | |
| | 3 | 5,330,528 | 07-19-1994 | Lazim | |
| | 4 | 5,534,024 | 07-09-1996 | Rogers et al. | |
| | 5 | 5,665,117 | 09-09-1999 | Rhodes | |
| | 6 | 5,769,882 | 06-23-1998 | Fogarty et al. | |
| | 7 | 5,824,037 | 10-20-1998 | Fogarty et al. | |
| | 8 | 5,843,160 | 12-01-1998 | Rhodes | |
| | 9 | 5,876,448 | 03-02-1999 | Thompson et al. | |
| | 10 | 6,110,198 | 08-29-2000 | Fogarty et al. | |
| | 11 | 6,168,592 | 01-02-2001 | Kupiecki et al. | |
| | 12 | 6,190,402 | 02-20-2001 | Horton et al. | |
| | 13 | 6,193,745 | 02-27-2001 | Fogarty et al. | |
| | 14 | 6,196,230 | 03-06-2001 | Hall et al. | |
| | 15 | 6,261,305 | 07-17-2001 | Marotta et al. | |
| | 16 | 6,283,991 | 09-04-2001 | Cox et al. | |
| | 17 | 6,296,603 | 10-02-2001 | Turnlund et al. | |
| | 18 | 6,299,597 | 10-09-2001 | Buscemi et al. | |
| | 19 | 6,312,462 | 11-06-2001 | McDermott et al. | |
| | 20 | 6,312,463 | 11-06-2001 | Rourke et al. | |
| | 21 | 6,331,184 | 12-18-2001 | Abrams | |
| | 22 | 6,334,869 | 01-01-2002 | Leonhardt et al. | |
| | 23 | 6,409,757 | 06-25-2002 | Trout, III et al. | |
| | 24 | 6,463,317 | 10-08-2002 | Kucharczyk et al. | |
| | 25 | 6,506,204 | 01-14-2003 | Mazzocchi | |
| | 26 | 6,544,276 | 04-08-2003 | Azizi | |
| | 27 | 6,592,614 | 07-15-2003 | Lenker et al. | |
| | 28 | 6,613,037 | 09-02-2003 | Khosravi et al. | |
| | 29 | 6,656,214 | 12-02-2003 | Fogarty et al. | |
| | 30 | 6,663,607 | 12-16-2003 | Slaikou et al. | |
| | 31 | 6,663,667 | 12-16-2003 | Dehdashtian et al. | |
| | 32 | 6,730,119 | 05-04-2004 | Smalling | |
| | 33 | 6,827,735 | 12-07-2004 | Greenberg | |
| | 34 | 6,843,803 | 01-18-2005 | Ryan et al. | |
| | 35 | 6,918,926 | 07-19-2005 | Letort | |

| | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| Examiner Signature | Date Considered |
|--------------------|-----------------|

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Kind Codes of U.S. Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

| | | | | | |
|---|---|----|--------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i> | | | Complete if Known | | |
| | | | Application Number | 10/787,404 | |
| | | | Filing Date | February 24, 2004 | |
| | | | First Named Inventor | FRANTZEN, JOHN J. | |
| | | | Art Unit | 3734 | |
| | | | Examiner Name | TRUONG, KEVIN THAO | |
| Sheet | 2 | of | 3 | Attorney Docket Number | 025925-000110US |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|---|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Document Number Number Kind Code ² (if known) | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
| | 36 | 6,960,227 | 11-01-2005 | Jones et al. | |
| | 37 | 2001/0020184 | 09-06-2001 | Dehdashtian et al. | |
| | 38 | 2002/0019665 | 02-14-2002 | Dehdashtian et al. | |
| | 39 | 2002/0026217 | 02-28-2002 | Baker et al. | |
| | 40 | 2002/0045848 | 04-18-2002 | Jaafar et al. | |
| | 41 | 2002/0052643 | 05-02-2002 | Wholey et al. | |
| | 42 | 2003/0014075 | 01-16-2003 | Rosenbluth et al. | |
| | 43 | 2003/0051735 | 03-20-2003 | Pavcnik et al. | |
| | 44 | 2003/0130725 | 07-10-2003 | DePalma et al. | |
| | 45 | 2003/0135269 | 07-17-2003 | Swanstrom | |
| | 46 | 2003/0204242 | 10-30-2003 | Zarins et al. | |
| | 47 | 2003/0204249 | 10-30-2003 | Letort | |
| | 48 | 2003/0216802 | 11-20-2003 | Chobotov et al. | |
| | 49 | 2004/0016997 | 01-29-2004 | Ushio | |
| | 50 | 2004/0044358 | 03-04-2004 | Khosravi et al. | |
| | 51 | 2004/0082989 | 04-29-2004 | Cook et al. | |
| | 52 | 2004/0098096 | 05-20-2004 | Eton | |
| | 53 | 2004/0204755 | 10-14-2004 | Robin | |
| | 54 | 2005/0004660 | 01-06-2005 | Rosenbluth et al. | |
| | 55 | 2005/0028484 | 02-10-2005 | Littlewood | |
| | 56 | 2005/0065592 | 03-24-2005 | Holzer | |
| | 57 | 2006/0025853 | 02-02-2006 | Evans et al. | |

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|---|--------------------------|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document | | | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | T ⁸ |
| | | Country Code ³ | Number ⁴ | Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | | | | |
| | 58 | WO | 01/21108 | | 03-29-2001 | Edwards Lifesciences Corp | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | 59 | WO | 02/102282 | | 12-27-2002 | Vortex Innovation Ltd | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | | | | | | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |

| | | | |
|--------------------|--|-----------------|--|
| Examiner Signature | | Date Considered | |
|--------------------|--|-----------------|--|

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Kind Codes of U.S. Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁸ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

| | | | | | |
|---|--------------------|----|---|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| Substitute for form 1449B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i> | | | | Complete if Known | |
| | | | | <i>Application Number</i> | 10/787,404 |
| | | | | <i>Filing Date</i> | February 24, 2004 |
| | | | | <i>First Named Inventor</i> | FRANTZEN, JOHN J. |
| | | | | <i>Art Unit</i> | 3734 |
| <i>Examiner Name</i> | TRUONG, KEVIN THAO | | | | |
| Sheet | 3 | of | 3 | <i>Attorney Docket Number</i> | 025925-000110US |

| NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS | | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| Examiner Initials * | Cite No. ¹ | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T ² |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| | | | <input type="checkbox"/> |

| | | | |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|
| Examiner Signature | | Date Considered | |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.